

Nota Bene News from the Yale Library

A Note of Greeting from the New University Librarian

For years I have been reading *Nota Bene*—first as collection officer at Northwestern and more recently as a library director at Johns Hopkins. Just imagine my pleasure in coming to Yale, to be steward to the magnificent collections about which I had been reading and with which I worked, just once, some twenty-five years ago. There simply isn't a better place to be a librarian than at Yale!

In its very shield, Yale declares itself to be a university of the open book. The 500-year tradition of the printed book is represented here in collections of breathtaking scope and depth. I am committed to keeping our collections strong, to enhancing their utility for teaching and research, and to preserving them so they will remain available to all who will, in the future, call upon the printed word to build understanding and to discover wisdom.

At the same time, the electronic word is transforming scholarship. This vibrant new culture is perhaps only

twenty years old, but I am committed to ensuring that the benefits of computers and networked communication are fully available to the Yale community. Libraries have been leaders in the adoption of new technologies, and there is a strong base on which to build at Yale.

Balancing and advancing the cultures of both the printed and the electronic word make this a challenging time to be a librarian and a wonderful time to be at Yale. I look forward to meeting as many readers of *Nota Bene* as possible. Because that will take some time, I would like everyone who reads this newsletter to know how glad I am to be at Yale as director of its world-class libraries. I succeed many distinguished directors. In the tradition they have created, I hope to serve you, the university, and our libraries well.

— Scott Bennett, University Librarian

Beinecke Acquires Ackroyd Papers

The Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library is pleased to announce the recent addition of Peter Ackroyd's papers to its growing holdings of modern British literary archives. Recognized as one of today's most brilliant chroniclers of British social and intellectual life, Ackroyd is the author of several innovative novels and a number of literary biographies, including his widely acclaimed life of Dickens.

Born in London in 1949 and educated at Clare College, Cambridge, Ackroyd served as literary editor and then managing editor of the weekly magazine *The Spectator*, where he established a reputation as a fiery critic. Beginning in 1971, he spent two years at Yale as a Mellon Fellow. Mr. Ackroyd's novels include *The Great Fire of London* (1982), *The Last Testament of Oscar Wilde* (1983), the award-winning *Hawksmoor* (1984), *Chatterton* (1987), *First Light* (1989), *English Music* (1992), and most recently *The House of Doctor Dee* (1993). He has also written biographies of Ezra Pound, Charles Dickens, and T. S. Eliot, and is currently working on a biographical study of William Blake. The archive acquired by the Beinecke Library comprises all of Peter Ackroyd's extant papers, including research notes, drafts of books and poems, an unpublished television drama, essays, lectures, reviews, and correspondence. —CAS



Scott Bennett, University Librarian.



Bookplate of the Stevenson Society of Saranac Lake, NY, designed by Will Low in 1918. From the Bookplate Collection.

Stevenson Centenary at Yale

Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, *Treasure Island*, and *Kidnapped* are a few of the works that have made Robert Louis Stevenson one of the most widely read authors of all time. This fall Yale marks the centenary of Stevenson's death with an international conference, a new edition of his letters, and a major exhibition on his life and works at the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

On October 14th and 15th the Beinecke Library joined the Whitney Humanities Center in sponsoring an international Stevenson conference. Speakers included scholars from Scotland, Ireland, England, Canada, and the United States. In addition, the Yale University Press has issued the first four volumes of an eight-volume edition of Stevenson's complete letters. This edition will include nearly 3,000 letters, many of them from the Beinecke collection, the world's largest gathering of Stevenson's books and manuscripts.

The Stevenson exhibition at the Beinecke Library opened with a lecture by Alexandra Lapierre on Fanny

Stevenson, Robert Louis Stevenson's American wife and literary collaborator. Drawn principally from the collection of Edwin J. Beinecke, the exhibition includes family letters, rare serialized printings of stories and novels by Stevenson, first editions of his works, manuscripts, and original photographs. Among these are pictures of daily life at Stevenson's estate Vailima in Samoa, where he spent the last five years of his life.

A high point of the Beinecke exhibition is a 24-page working draft of *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, written in the fall of 1885. The first draft of the story has been lost (one legend says that Stevenson burned it); the Beinecke manuscript is a second, intermediate version. An illustrated catalog of the exhibition, written by Vincent Giroud, curator of modern books and manuscripts at the Beinecke Library, is available.

Edwin J. Beinecke became interested in Stevenson in the late 1920s. By 1939, he had accumulated the world's largest collection of first and early editions, books from Stevenson's library, original artwork, scrapbooks, photographs, memorabilia, manuscripts, and autograph letters by, to, and about Stevenson. Throughout the 1940s, major additions were made to this already impressive collection, including the *St. Ives*, *Catriona*, and *Jekyll and Hyde* manuscripts. By 1950 the remainder of the collection of Stevenson's stepdaughter, Mrs. Salisbury



Bronze medallion of Robert Louis Stevenson by Augustus Saint-Gaudens, on display in the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Field (Isobel Strong), and over a hundred letters to Sir Sidney Colvin had also been added.

E. J. Beinecke presented his Stevenson collection to Yale in March 1951. The six volumes of George L. McKay's catalog, *A Stevenson Library: Catalogue of a Collection of Writings by and about Robert Louis Stevenson, Formed by Edwin J. Beinecke*, were published over the next decade. E. J. Beinecke continued to enrich his Stevenson collection after its transfer to Yale, and this unparalleled resource for Stevenson scholarship continues to grow through gifts and by purchase, thanks to the funds he established. —CAS

The Eli Express

In September, the Yale University Library began to offer a new time-saving service for its users. Dubbed "Eli Express," the service makes it possible for Library users to renew and recall books belonging to many of the Yale libraries at several other participating libraries. Books may be returned to the closest Yale library, without regard to the collection in which it belongs. Readers may request books from participating libraries for delivery to any of the other libraries. The goal of this service is to have the book available for pickup within 48 hours.

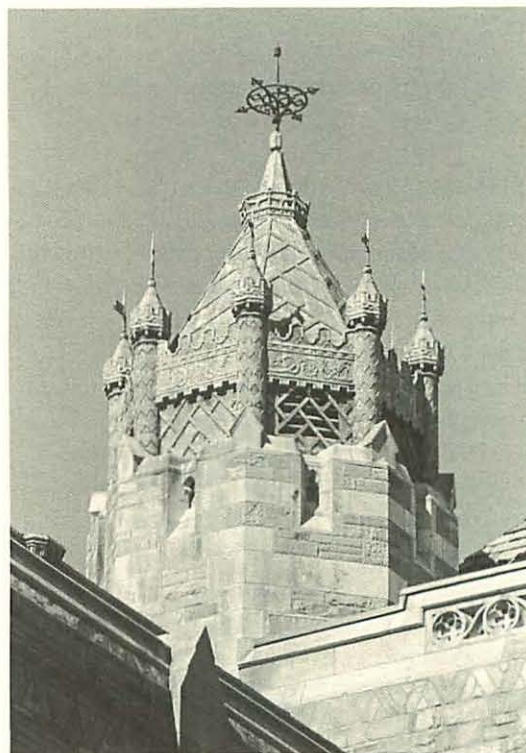
Many of the Yale Library collections will thus be accessible over a single circulation desk. The individual faculty, staff member, or student may determine the most convenient location for his or her library use.

Libraries participating in this service are: Cross Campus, Divinity, Drama, Engineering and Applied Sciences, Forestry, Geology, Kline Science, Medical, Mudd, Music, Social Sciences, and Sterling Memorial Library. The Art and Architecture Library may also be used as a service point for Eli Express, although its collection does not circulate.

This initial service for books only, excluding journals, is the first in a series of changes designed to improve services for library users. Planned improvements include renewal and correspondence by electronic mail and delivery of photocopied articles from the Yale collections to a circulation desk selected by the reader.

The Yale Library welcomes comments and suggestions from its users regarding such services. Please address these to Tom Schneider, Head of Circulation, Sterling Memorial Library (e-mail: tomsch@yalevm.cis.yale.edu).

—TES



One of Sterling Memorial Library's ornate towers.

A Renovation Update

The first phase of the renovation of the Sterling Memorial Library is scheduled to begin next summer and continue until the end of August 1997. The library will remain open to readers throughout the renovation, which will focus primarily on installing modern heating and cooling systems and other urgently needed improvements in the book stacks. Through the generosity of donors, the Main Reading Room, the American Studies Reading Room, the Memorabilia Room, and the exhibition corridor will be restored as well.

In a related project, representatives from the Department of Music, the School of Music, and the Library have been planning since May 1994 for the construction of a new music library in the space now taken up by Sterling's second courtyard. The new music library will replace the old Sprague Hall library, whose shelving capacity, seating room, and temperature controls have been regarded as inadequate for more than twenty years. The committee hopes that construction of the new library will begin in 1996 and be completed in 1997. —KAT

Kay Swift, Broadway Pioneer

The Yale Music Library recently completed processing the papers of Kay Swift, which were donated to the Library in 1993 by her granddaughter Katharine Weber.

Kay Swift (1897–1993) is known primarily for her close association with George Gershwin. As a composer, however, she was a pioneer, writing full-length scores for Broadway shows and the American Ballet at a time when few women wrote for the stage. Her music spans seven decades and a wide range of styles.

Swift received formal training at the Institute of Musical Art (now the Juilliard School) and the New England Conservatory. Her first marriage to the banker James P. Warburg launched her career as a Broadway composer. Together they created songs for Broadway revues and musicals including the 1930 hit *Fine and Dandy*.

In 1935 George Balanchine commissioned Swift to write a ballet called *Alma Mater* about student life at Yale. She also served in 1935–36 as a staff composer at Radio City Music Hall and as musical supervisor for the 1939 New York World's Fair.

Swift's second marriage to an Oregon rancher took her away from New York theatrical life. She returned in the 1950s to write music for the Broadway show *Paris '90* and Marc Connelly's play *Hunter's Moon*.

Swift was considered a priceless source of knowledge about her frequent companion and collaborator George Gershwin. In 1938 she and Ira Gershwin used sketches for songs left by George to construct a score for the film *The Shocking Miss Pilgrim* (1946). In addition, she helped to reconstruct Gershwin music for posthumous publication and recordings. In 1959, Samuel Goldwyn hired Swift to promote the film version of *Porgy and Bess*.

The collection contains primary source materials for most of Swift's musical compositions and writings, including holographs and copyist's manuscripts of nearly all of her theater compositions, individual songs, and instrumental works. These include full orchestral score for *Alma Mater*, *One Little Girl*, and the song cycle *Reaching for the Brass Ring*. The papers also hold scripts and lyrics, as well as numerous outlines and sketches for many unrealized projects.

Kay Swift led a long and fascinating life. The availability of her papers may now allow her story to be told in full and her compositions to receive the critical and commercial attention they deserve. —JSL



Nota Bene is published during the academic year to acquaint the Yale community and others interested with the resources of the Yale libraries. Please direct comments and questions to Susanne Roberts, Editor, Bibliography Department, Sterling Memorial Library (phone: 432-1762, e-mail: roberts@yalevm.cis.yale.edu).

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Scott Bennett, University Librarian
Susanne F. Roberts, Editor

Eureka! The RLG Database

In September the Library released Eureka, an easy-to-use online service, to the Yale community. This service provides author, title, and subject access to the Research Library Group's bibliographic file and to two additional files, the Anthropological Literature index and the Avery Index to Architectural Periodicals.

The bibliographic file, known to many as RLIN, contains over 22 million catalog records describing books, journals, maps, recordings, musical scores, films, manuscript collections, and computer archives held in hundreds of research, corporate, and public libraries as well as museums, archives, and historical societies. Among the significant library collections represented in the database are those of Berkeley, Columbia, Cornell, Michigan, Princeton, and Stanford.

Anthropological Literature is one of the preeminent international indexes to the literature of anthropology and archaeology. Compiled by the staff of the Tozzer Library at Harvard University, the online database includes over 83,000 citations to journal articles and select monographs dating from 1984 to the present. Subjects covered include archaeology, socio-cultural anthropology, physical anthropology, linguistics, sociology, history, economics, art history, religious studies, music, and area studies. (Continued on Page 7)

Yale University Library Selectors Directory

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Ralph W. Franklin

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NB: The prefix for all phone numbers is: (203) 432-. The suffix for all e-mail addresses except bitnet addresses is: .yale.edu.

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Afro-American Studies	Margaret Powell SML 118	2-1761 mpowell@yalevm.cis
American Literature Collection (BRBL)	Patricia Willis BRBL 25	2-2962 willp@yalevm.cis
American Literature (SML)	Margaret Powell SML 118	2-1761 mpowell@yalevm.cis
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Requests may also be directed to the e-mail account "BOOKS@YALEVM" or by campus mail.



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Molecular Biophysics & Biochemistry	Kimberly Parker KBT C8	2-3443 kimberly_parker@qm.cis
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Rare Books & Manuscripts (BRBL)		
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Southeast Asian Studies	Charles R. Bryant SML 307	2-1859 cbryant@yalevm.cis
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Statistics	JoAnn L. Dionne SSL	2-3304 ssda@yalevm.cis
Theater	Jeffrey K. Larson SML 118	2-1760 jlarson@yalevm.cis
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Cicero addressing the senators, one of a series of window decorations depicting the history of government in SML 316, formerly the Political and Social Science Study.

Government Documents at Yale

New electronic files available on YaleInfo provide expanded information about Yale's collections of government documents. A series of collection profiles identifies the key bibliographic access points to various governmental and intergovernmental collections in the Government Documents Center (GDC) and the Law Library. Gathering nearly one hundred pages of printed text into an electronic format, these files will allow users to find information about U.S. federal, Canadian, United Nations, and European Union (formerly European Communities) publications. Most profiles present the history and scope of the collection, followed by citations to major finding aids and research guides. Research tools for access to documents of the major branches of government appear along with descriptions of electronic resources that include full-text, numeric, and bibliographic databases.

Members of the Yale community are encouraged to consult this electronic reference service to locate particular materials before venturing to Yale's depository collections. They can find "Government Documents at Yale" under the "Yale Libraries" heading in YaleInfo. Questions about this addition to YaleInfo may be addressed to Sandy Peterson (peterss@yalevm.cis.yale.edu) or Laura Orr (l Orr@yalevm.cis.yale.edu). —MLB

The Avery Index to Architectural Periodicals, produced by the staff of the Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library at Columbia University, serves as the premier indexing and abstracting tool for architecture and the allied arts. Subject coverage includes architectural history, engineering, conservation and restoration, landscape design, and mural painting. Although the title suggests that only architectural periodicals are indexed, the database also contains article citations for periodicals in related fields such as art history, interior design, and city planning. The online file includes citations since 1978 as well as a substantial number of citations from previous years.

All of these databases may be reached through the Multi-Protocol Gateway (MPG) screen from any microcomputer or terminal linked to the campus network. The Eureka databases are also accessible through YaleInfo under the category Library Catalogs and Information Services. Printed instructions for using Eureka are available at the Reference Desk in Sterling Memorial Library. —ACS



Bookcase ornament in Manuscript and Archives, formerly the Rare Book room in SML.



Calendar of Exhibits

ART AND ARCHITECTURE LIBRARY

Artists' Books by Joanna Drucker
through December

STERLING MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Milestones in Yale History
through November 1

Papers of the Peacemakers
through November 4

The 150th Anniversary of Yale's First Library Building
opening November 6

BEINECKE RARE BOOK LIBRARY

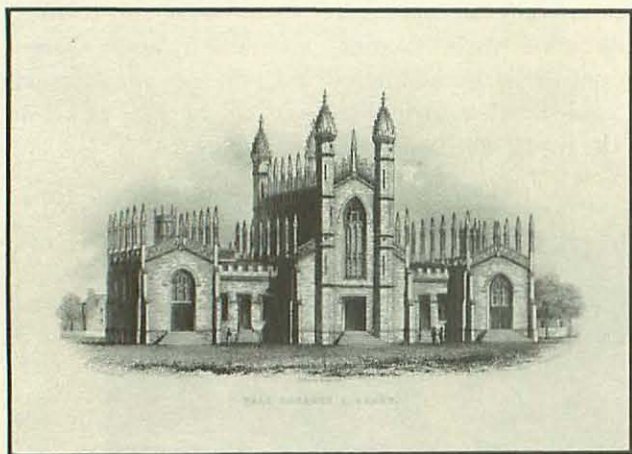
R.L.S. A Centenary Exhibition from the Robert Louis Stevenson Collection of E. J. Beinecke
through December

Masks and Models: Charles Demuth and his Friends
through December 22

DIVINITY LIBRARY

Snapshots of American culture during the 1940s and 1950s

Social and Economic conditions in New Haven, 1937-1962
through January



Engraving of the old Yale Library designed by Henry Austin c.1844, in the SML exhibit on Yale's first library building.

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